

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 06399 061436Z

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ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4496

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY CAIRO BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY JIDDA BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 6399

LIMDIS

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF

SUBJECT: GOI POLICY TOWARD WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS

REF: TEL AVIV 6263, TEL AVIV 6319 STATE 243892

1. IN COURSE OF HIS SPEECH TO KNESSET NOV 5, PM RABIN SAID
FOLLOWING REGARDING GOI POLICY TOWARD SETTLEMENTS ON WEST BANK.

2. BEGIN QUOTE.. THE GOVERNMENTS'S STAND REMAINS FIRM
AND UNCHANGED: SETTLEMENTS IN THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES
ARE ESTABLISHED AND WILL BE ESTABLISHED SOLEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE GOVT'S DECISIONS. ALL THOSE DESIROUS OF SETTLING CAN
SEND IN THEIR NAMES TO THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES AND THEY WILL
BE ACCORDED ASSISTANCE ACCORDING TO THE PRIORITIES SET FORTH BY
THE GOVT FROM TIME TO TIME. ONCE MORE, I APPEAL TO
THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS TO SETTLE TO COME FORWARD AND
VOLUNTEER TO FILL THE RANKS OF OUR SETTLERS IN THE JORDAN
RIFT, AND THE RAFAH SALIENT AND THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. END QUOTE.

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 06399 061436Z

3. COMMENT: REITERATION BY RABIN OF UNCHANGED GOI POLICY

NOT UNEXPECTED. THIS OF COURSE TELLS US NOTHING ABOUT
FUTURE GOI SPECIFIC INTENTIONS RE ESTABLISHMENT OF THREE
SETTLEMENTS ON WEST BANK WHICH , ACCORDING TO SOME NEWSPAPER
ACCOUNTS, WAS PART OF PRICE FOR NRP COMING INTO CABINET. UPSHOT
OF SIFTING CONFLICTING AND CONFUSING INFO ON THIS SUBJECT
FROM VARIETY OF SOURCES IS OUR CONCLUSION THAT RABIN AND THE NRP
DID INDEED, AT LEAST DISCUSS THE SUBJECT OF ADDITIONAL
SETTLEMENTS ON THE WEST BANK WITH SOME THEOLOGICAL HAIRSPPLITTING
AS TO WHETHER THEY DISCUSSED "NEW" SETTLEMENTS OR DISCUSSED
"ONLY" SETTLEMENTS WHICH HAD BEEN AGREED TO AT LEAST
IN PRINCIPLE BY GOI IN PAST ON BASIS OF GALLILI
PLAN. OUR READING IS THAT THERE IS PERHAPS SOME KIND OF IMPLICIT
UNDERSTANDING, IF NOT ACTUAL COMMITMENT, BETWEEN RABIN AND NRP,
BUT THAT THIS IS SUFFICIENTLY FUZZY TO ALLOW RABIN FLEXIBILITY RE
TIMING OF IMPLEMENTATION BOTH FOR FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICY
REASONS. (IN THE DOMESTIC FIELD, THIS WOULD ENABLE HIM TO
PERSUADE INDEPENDENT LIBERALS AND MAPAM THAT HE HAD NOT GIVEN
NRP ANY "NEW" COMMITMENTS RE GOI SETTLEMENT POLICY.)
IN ANY EVENT, CABINET HAS NOT YET BEEN ASKED TO OFFICIALLY
SANCTION IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDITIONAL SETTLEMENTS. FUTURE
ACTION THIS RESPECT MAY WELL DEPEND UPON FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS
WITH SECRETARY.
KEATING

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O - MR. JOHNSON.

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